03508

4months, CLOSED

U.S. District Court Northern District of Georgia (Atlanta) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:07-cv-02644-JOF Internal Use Only

Miller v. Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC et al Assigned to: Judge J. Owen Forrester

Cause: 28:1332 Diversity-Fraud

Date Filed: 10/24/2007

Date Terminated: 03/03/2008 Jury Demand: Plaintiff

Nature of Suit: 370 Fraud or

Truth-In-Lending Jurisdiction: Diversity

Plaintiff

Dianne Miller

represented by Charles Tyrone Brant

Office of Charles T. Brant 170 Mitchell Street Atlanta, GA 30303 404-522-5900

Email: ebrant@colomandbrantlaw.com

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

V.

Defendant

Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

CERTIFIED THIS

represented by Christopher Lee Meazell

Dow Lohnes PLLC Six Concourse Parkway

Suite 1800

Atlanta, GA 30328-6177

770-901-8898

Email: cmeazell@dlalaw.com

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Thomas MacIver Clyde

Dow Lohnes Suite 1300

Six Concourse Parkway

A CERS Attenta, GA 20038-611 J. MICI 770 1901 78800

04/08/2008 11:25 AM

Case 1:08-cv-03508-HB Document 1 Filed 04种0

Defendant

MacMillan Publishers, Inc.

represented by Christopher Lee Meazell

(See above for address)

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Thomas MacIver Clyde

(See above for address)

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Defendant

Saint Martin's Press

represented by Christopher Lee Meazell

(See above for address)

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Thomas MacIver Clyde (See above for address)

LEAD ATTORNEY ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Defendant

Heather Hunter

represented by Christopher Lee Meazell

(See above for address)

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Thomas MacIver Clyde

(See above for address)

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Defendant

Michelle Valentine

represented by Christopher Lee Meazell

(See above for address)

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Thomas MacIver Clyde

(See above for address)

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

2 of 4 04/08/2008 11:25 AM

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
10/24/2007	3 1	COMPLAINT with Jury Demand, filed by Dianne Miller; and Summon(s) issued. Consent form to proceed before U.S. Magistrate and pretrial instructions provided. (Filing fee \$ 350.00 receipt number 570624.) (Attachments: # 1 Civil Cover Sheet)(epm) Please visit our website at http://www.gand.uscourts.gov to obtain Pretrial Instructions. (Entered: 10/25/2007)
10/24/2007	3	(Court only) ***Set/Clear Flags (epm) (Entered: 10/25/2007)
11/01/2007	<u> 32</u>	Summons Issued as to Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC, MacMillan Publishers, Inc., Saint Martin's Press, Heather Hunter, Michelle Valentine. (hfm) (Entered: 11/05/2007)
11/28/2007	3 3	Consent MOTION for Extension of Time to File Answer by Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC, MacMillan Publishers, Inc., Saint Martin's Press, Heather Hunter, Michelle Valentine. (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order)(Clyde, Thomas) (Entered: 11/28/2007)
11/29/2007	3	MINUTE ORDER by CRD on 11/29/2007 granting 3 Motion for Extension of Time to Answer. Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC's, MacMillan Publishers, Inc.'s, Saint Martin's Press's, Heather Hunter's, and Michelle Valentine's answers due 12/17/2007. Signed by Judge J. Owen Forrester on 11/29/07. (tcc) (Entered: 11/29/2007)
12/17/2007	34	MOTION to Dismiss for Improper Venue with Brief In Support by Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC, MacMillan Publishers, Inc., Saint Martin's Press, Heather Hunter, Michelle Valentine. (Clyde, Thomas) Modified on 12/18/2007 to edit motion event to accurately reflect e-filed pleading (hfm). (Entered: 12/17/2007)
12/17/2007	3 <u>5</u>	AFFIDAVIT re 4 MOTION to Dismiss for Improper Venue by Heather Hunter. (Clyde, Thomas) Modified on 12/18/2007 to edit docket text to accurately reflect e-filed pleading (hfm). (Entered: 12/17/2007)
12/19/2007	3 6	NOTICE of Appearance by Christopher Lee Meazell on behalf of Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC, MacMillan Publishers, Inc., Saint Martin's Press, Heather Hunter, Michelle Valentine (Meazell, Christopher) (Entered: 12/19/2007)
01/03/2008	3	Submission of 4 MOTION to Dismiss, submitted to District Judge J. Owen Forrester. (hfm) (Entered: 01/03/2008)
01/05/2008	3 <u>7</u>	MOTION for Extension of Time re: 4 MOTION to Dismiss for Improper Venue by Dianne Miller. (Attachments: # 1 Text of Proposed Order Order)(Brant, Charles) (Entered: 01/05/2008)
01/08/2008	3 <u>8</u>	RESPONSE in Support re 7 MOTION for Extension of Time re: 4 MOTION to Dismiss <i>for Improper Venue</i> filed by Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC, MacMillan Publishers, Inc., Saint Martin's Press, Heather Hunter,

3 of 4 04/08/2008 11:25 AM

01/10/2008	3	MINUTE ORDER by CRD on 1/10/2008 granting 7 MOTION for Extension of Time until 1/22/08 to respond to 4 MOTION to Dismiss for Improper Venue by Dianne Miller. (tcc) (Entered: 01/10/2008)
01/22/2008	39	PROPOSED CONSENT ORDER Order Granting Transfer of Venue. (Brant, Charles) (Entered: 01/22/2008)
03/03/2008	<u> 310</u>	ORDER approving 9 Proposed Consent Order Transferring action to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. Signed by Judge J. Owen Forrester on 3/3/08. (hfm) (Entered: 03/03/2008)
03/03/2008	3	Case transferred ELECTRONICALLY to District of Southern New York. (Entered: 03/03/2008)
03/03/2008	3	Civil Case Terminated. (hfm) (Entered: 03/03/2008)
03/03/2008	3 <u>11</u>	Clerk's Letter of Transfer to the USDC Southern District of New York. (hfin) (Entered: 03/03/2008)
04/08/2008	3	Case transferred manually to District of USDC SDNY. Original file, certified copy of transfer order and docket sheet sent. (hfm) (Entered: 04/08/2008)
04/08/2008	<u>312</u>	Clerk's Letter of Manual Transfer to USDC SDNY. (hfm) (Entered: 04/08/2008)

4 of 4 04/08/2008 11:25 AM

OCT 24 2007

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

JAMES N. HATTON CLERK
By: Who provident

DIANNE MILLER,

PLAINTIFF

1 07-CV-2644

CIVIL ACTION NO.

HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC,
MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC
SAINT MARTIN'S PRESS,
HEATHER HUNTER
AND MICHELLE VALENTINE

DEFENDANTS

COMPLAINT

1. This is an action at law to redress damages caused to the Plaintiff through tortuous interference with business advantage, plagiarism and other actionable practices and conduct by Defendants.

PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

- 2. The Plaintiff, Dianne Miller, is an adult resident citizen of Washington, D.C., whose address is 2950 Van Ness St. NW # 527, Washington, D.C.
- 3. Defendant, Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC, (hereafter "Holtzbrinck"), at all times relevant hereto, is a limited liability company created and organized under the laws of the state of New York and whose address is 175 9th Avenue, New York, NY 10010 and is subject to service of process by and through its General Counsel.
- 4. Defendant, MacMillan Publishers, Inc, (hereafter "MacMillan"), at all times relevant hereto, is a corporation created and organized under the laws of the state

of New York and whose address is 175 9th Avenue, New York, NY 10010 and is subject to service of process by and through its General Counsel.

- 5. Defendant, Saint Martins Press, (hereafter "St. Martins"), at all times relevant hereto, is a limited liability company created and organized under the laws of the state of New York and whose address is 175 9th Avenue, New York, NY 10010 and is subject to service of process by and through its General Counsel.
- 6. Defendant, Heather Hunter (hereafter "Hunter"), at all times relevant hereto, is an adult citizen of the State of New York who resides at an address unknown to Plaintiff at this time.
- 7. Defendant, Michelle Valentine (hereafter "Valentine"), at all times relevant hereto, is an adult citizen of the State of New York who resides at an address unknown to Plaintiff at this time.
- 8. The Court has subject-matter jurisdiction of this case under 28 U.S.C. § 1332 (a).
- 9. Venue is proper in this Court because the acts delineated below all occurred either partially or in totality in Atlanta, GA. Furthermore the book, subject matter of this litigation, sold by the defendant is distributed on a national level and is sold and circulated in Atlanta, Georgia.

FACTS

- 10. The Plaintiff, Diane Miller, is an author who agreed to write a book in conjunction, with Defendant, Heather Hunter, for publication.
- 11. Sometime in April of 2005, Plaintiff Miller delivered a finished manuscript to Defendant Hunter and her agent.

- 12. On or about July 24, 2007, Defendants Holtzbrinck, MacMillan, and Saint Martin's released a book purportedly written by Defendant Hunter and Defendant Valentine.
- 13. The book released by Hunter and Valentine is the substantially the same work and product that Plaintiff wrote for Hunter.
- 14. Defendant Hunter intentionally misled Plaintiff into believing that she would be paid and acknowledged as the principal writer of the book in question.
- 15. The Defendant Valentine, intentionally took the manuscript written by Plaintiff, and held it out as her own work and has failed to acknowledge that the work is that of the Plaintiff or pay Plaintiff forsame.
- 16. Defendant Holtzbrinck, MacMillan, and Saint Martins knew that the book purportedly written by Defendant Hunter and Valentine was not an original work and published the book without regard for the rights of the Plaintiff.

COUNT I

Intentional and Tortious Interference with Business Relationship

- 17. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 16 above are incorporated herein as if set forth again in full.
 - 18. The Defendants' acts delineated hereinabove were willful and intentional.
- 19. The Defendants' acts delineated hereinabove were done with the unlawful purpose of causing damage and loss to the Plaintiff's business.
- 20. The Defendants' acts delineated hereinabove were calculated to cause loss and damage to Plaintiff in its lawful business or undertakings.

21. Defendants' conduct constitutes tortuous interference and caused damage to Plaintiff Dianne Miller's business relations with those inside of the literary community by failing to give Plaintiff notoriety for the manuscript written.

COUNT II

Intentional Conversion of Plaintiff's Manuscript

- 22. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 21 above are incorporated herein as if set forth again in full.
- 23. The intentional acts complained constitute unlawful conversion of an unpublished manuscript by Defendants Holztbrinck, Macmillan, St. Martin's, and Valentine.
- 24. The Defendants conduct delineated above has caused Plaintiff to suffer a loss of personal property that was in her rightful possession at the time of the alleged incident.

COUNT III

Fraudulent Inducement and Misrepresentation

- 25. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 24 above are incorporated herein as if set forth again in full.
- 26. The intentional acts complained of constitute both fraudulent inducement and intentional misrepresentation on the part of Defendant Hunter in inducing Plaintiff to write the manuscript with her Defendant Hunter in full knowledge that she never intended Plaintiff to receive her due credit.

27. The Defendant through her conduct delineated above caused Plaintiff to suffer from a loss of income.

DEMAND FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for the following relief:

- (a) Trial by jury;
- (b) Judgment for Plaintiff and against the Defendants;
- (c) An award of damages in the amount of one million dollars
 (\$1,000,000) which will fully and fairly compensate
 Plaintiff for lost revenues and compensatory damages caused by
 Defendants' actions;
- (d) Reasonable attorney's fees, costs and expenses;
- (e) Punitive damages of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) to deter like conduct in the future by these Defendants and other similarly situated persons and entities;
- (f) Such other and further relief as may be deemed just and proper in the premises.

JURY TRIAL DEMAND

Plaintiff demands a trial by struck j	ury of all issues	in this cause.
Respectfully submitted, this the	day of	, 2007.

DIANNE MILLER. PLAINTIFF

Charles T. Brant (GA Bar No Colom and Brant Law Firm 170 Mitchell Street SW Atlanta, GA 30303 Attorney for Plaintiff

PLAINTIFF REQUEST SERVICE OF PROCESS ON DEFENDANTS BY CERTIFIED RETURN RECIEPT REQUESTED.

Filed 04/10/2008 Page 1 of 2

JS44 (Rev. 5/05 NDGA)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

17-01-2644

The JS44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required except as provided by local rules of court. This form is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket record. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED)

I. (a) PLAINTIFF(S)		D	EFENDANT(S)			
DIANNE MILLER		HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC, MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC, SAINT MARTIN'S PRESS, MICHELLE VALENTINE, AND HEATHER HUNTER				
(b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF		CC	OUNTY OF RESIDENCE	OF FIRS	T LISTED	
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				S PLTF CA	SES ONLY)	•
		NO	TE IN LAND CONDEMNATION O	-	THE LOCATION OF	THE
(c) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, TEI NUMBER, AND E-MAIL ADD	EPHONE RESS)	АТ	TORNEYS (IF H	(NOWN)		
CHARLES T. BRANT		İ				
170 MITCHELL STREET, SW						
ATLANTA, GA 30303						
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)	1		VSHIP OF PRING IN ONE BOX FOR PLAINTIF	F AND ONE	BOX FOR DEFE	=
	PLF	DEF	·	PLF	DEF	
1 U.S. GOVERNMENT 3 FEDERAL QUESTION (U.S. GOVERNMENT NOT A PARTY)	□'	□ ¹	CITIZEN OF THIS STATE	□'		ORATED OR PRINCIPAL F BUSINESS IN THIS STATE
2 U.S. GOVERNMENT 4 DIVERSITY (INCICATE CITIZENSHIP OF PARTIES IN ITEM NI)	□, 집,		CITIZEN OF ANOTHER STATE CITIZEN OR SUBJECT OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY	□5 □6		ORATED AND PRINCIPAL PLACE INESS IN ANOTHER STATE I NATION
IV. ORIGIN (PLACE AN X IN ONE BOX ONLY) 1 ORIGINAL PROCEEDING 2 REMOVED FROM APPELLATE COUR APPELLATE COUR		TATED OR	TRANSFERRED FROM 5 ANOTHER DISTRICT (SPECIFY DISTRICT)	F-7 6 1	MULTIDISTRICT LTIGATION	APPEAL TO DISTRICT 7 JUDGE FROM MAGISTRATE JUDGE JUDGMENT
V. CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE U.S. CIVIL STATUS	TE UNDER W	MCH YOU	ARE FILING AND WRITE A B	RIEF STAT	EMENT OF CAUS	BE - DO NOT CITE
INTENTIONAL AND TORTIOUS INTERFEREN		•	NESS RELATIONS	HIPS, U	JNLAWFU!	L CONVERSION, AND
(IF COMPLEX, CHECK REASON BELOW)						_
1. Unusually large number of parties	6. Proble	ms loca	ting or preserving evide	ence		
2. Unusually large number of claims or defenses	7 Pendir	ig paral	lel investigations or act	ions by g	overnment	
3 Factual issues are exceptionally complex	38. Multipl	e use o	experts.			
4 Greater than normal volume of evidence	3 Need f	or disco	very outside United Stat	tes bound	laries	
5. Extended discovery period is needed.	10 Exist	ence of	highly technical issues	and proof	' .	
CC	UNITAC	ED C	N REVERSE			
Polic dirinde ball disk.						
PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PR	***					
interaction.	1999					

370

28:1332 FT

VI. NATURE OF SUIT (PLACE AN	X IN ONE BOX ON! VI	
CONTRACT - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK	BANKRUPTCY - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK	SOCIAL SECURITY - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY
150 RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENT &	422 APPEAL 28 USC 158	TRACK
ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGMENT 152 RECOVERY OF DEFAULTED	423 WITHORAWAL 28 USC 157	861 HIA (1395ir)
STUDENT LOANS (EXCL VETERANS)		692 BLACK LUNG (923)
153 RECOVERY OF OVERPAYMENT OF	CIVIL RIGHTS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK	363 DHVC (405(g)) 363 DHVW (405(g))
VETERANS BENEFITS	442 EMPLOYMENT	B84 SSID TITLE XM
	443 HOUSING/ ACCOMMODATIONS	665 RSI (405(g))
CONTRACT - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK	444 WELFARE	
110 INSURANCE	440 OTHER CIVIL RIGHTS	FEDERAL TAX SUITS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY
130MILLER ACT	445 AMERICANS with DISABILITIES - Employment	IRACK [] 870 TAXES (U.S. PLAINTIFF OR
140 NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT	446 AMERICANS with DISABILITIES -	DEFENDANT)
151 MEDICARE ACT	Other	F71 IRS - THIRD PARTY 26 USC 7809
160 STOCKHOLDERS' SUITS		
190 OTHER CONTRACT	PRISONER PETITIONS - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY	OTHER STATUTES - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK
195 CONTRACT PRODUCT LIABILITY 196 FRANCHISE	TRACK 1 1510 MOTIONS TO VACATE SENTENCE	400 STATE REAPPORTIONMENT
C Institute of	590 HABEAS CORPUS	430 BANKS AND BANKING
REAL PROPERTY - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY	535 HABEAS CORPUS DEATH PENALTY	450 COMMERCIE/ICC RATES/ETC.
TRACK	540 MANDAMUS & OTHER	460 DEPORTATION
210 LAND CONDEMNATION 220 FORECLOSURE	550 CML RIGHTS (Fled Pro se)	470 RACKETEER INFLUENCED AND CORRUPT ORGANIZATIONS
230 RENT LEASE & EJECTMENT	555 PRISON CONDITION(S) (Flied Pro se)	480 CONSUMER CREDIT
240 TORTS TO LAND	PRISONER PETITIONS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY	490 CABLE/SATELLITE TV
245 TORT PRODUCT LIABILITY	TRACK	810 SELECTIVE SERVICE
290 ALL OTHER REAL PROPERTY	550 CIVIL RIGHTS (Fled by Counsel)	875 CUSTOMER CHALLENGE 12 USC
	555 PRISON CONDITION(S) (Fled by Counsel)	3410
TORTS - PERSONAL INJURY - "4" MONTHS		681 AGRICULTURAL ACTS
DISCOVERY TRACK	FORFEITURE/PENALTY - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY	#83 EWIRONMENTAL MATTERS
315 ARPLANE PRODUCT LIABILITY	TRACK	894 ENERGY ALLOCATION ACT
320 ASSAULT, LIBEL & SLANDER	510 AGRICULTURE	595 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT
330 FEDERAL EMPLOYERS LIABILITY	E20 FOOD & DRUG	800 APPEAL OF FEE DETERMINATION
340 MARTINE	625 DRUG RELATED SEIZURE OF	UNDER EQUAL ACCESS TO
345 MARINE PRODUCT LIABILITY	PROPERTY 21 USC 861	JUSTICE
350 MOTOR VEHICLE 355 MOTOR VEHICLE PRODUCT	E30LIQUORLAMS	950 CONSTITUTIONALITY OF STATE STATUTES
LABILITY	7650 APLINE REGS.	1 1890 OTHER STATUTORY ACTIONS
380 OTHER PERSONAL INJURY	860 OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY/HEALTH	
362 PERSONAL INJURY - MEDICAL	E SEO OTHER	OTHER STATUTES - "8" MONTHS DISCOVERY
MALPRACTICE		IRACK
385 PERSONAL INJURY-PRODUCT	<u>LABOR - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK</u> 1710 FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT	410 ANTITRUST 550 SECURITIES / COMMODITIES /
LIABILITY	720 LABORMIGMT, RELATIONS	EXCHANGE
288 ASBESTOS PERSONAL INJURY PRODUCT LIABILITY	730 LABORIMONT REPORTING &	
PRODUCT OPBILITY	DISCLOSURE ACT	
TORTS - PERSONAL PROPERTY - "4" MONTHS	740 RAILWAY LABOR ACT	OTHER STATUTES - "0" MONTHS DISCOVERY TRACK
DISCOVERY TRACK	790 OTHER LABOR LITIGATION	ARBITRATION
370 OTHER FRAUD	791 EMPL RET INC. SECURITY ACT	(CONFIRM/VACATE/ORDER/MODIFY)
371 TRUTH IN LENDING 380 OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY	PROPERTY RIGHTS - "4" MONTHS DISCOVERY	
DAMAGE	TRACK	(Note: Please mark underlying Nature of
385 PROPERTY DAMAGE PRODUCT	820 COPYRIGHTS	Suit as well)
LIABILITY	B40 TRADEMARK	
	PROPERTY RIGHTS - "8" MONTHS DISCOVERY	* PLEASE NOTE DISCOVERY
	TRACK	TRACK FOR EACH CASE TYPE, SEE LOCAL RULE
	630 PATENT	26.3
AN DEALFARENCE AND A		£Vi¥
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLA	IN I:	
CHECK IF CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R CIV.	23 DEMAND \$	_
JURY DEMAND YES NO (CHECK YES		_
JUNE DEMANDED TES NO (CHECK TES	ONE IF DEMANDED IN COMPERMITY	
VIII. RELATED/REFILED CAS	E(S) IF ANY	
JUDGE	DOCKET NO	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	PENDING CASE INVOLVES: (CHECK APPROPRIAT	E BOXV
	•	L DON,
	THE SAME EVENT OR TRANSACTION INCLUDED IN AN EARLIER	ALI IMPEREN PENNING SUIT
	LE PATENT, COPYRIGHT OR TRADEMARK INCLUDED IN AN EARL	
	ROPTCY CASE AND ANY CASE RELATED THERETO WHICH HAV	
BANKRUPTCY JUDGE		
S. REPETITIVE CASES FLED BY PRO SELUTIO	ANTS.	
	E(S) BEING SIMULTANEOUSLY FILED (INCLUDE ABBREVIATED ST	YLE OF OTHER CASE(S)):
 ·		
7 EMHER SOME ORALL OF THE PARTIES A	NO ISSUES IN THIS CASE WERE PREVIOUSLY INVOLVED IN CASE	NO, WHICH
WAS DISMISSED. THIS CASE IS	IS NOT (check one box) SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME CASE.	/
MILENIER A IMI	"+ 1 RT< . IC.	1.74/1/2
(1 (u (1 () 7.1/1))((DATE	<u>~~1,~</u>
SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD / C/	j UAIE /	1

SAO 440 (Rev. 8/01) Summons in a Civil Action

UNITED STATES	S DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN Distr	rict of GEORGIA
DIANNE MILLER	
	SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION
V. HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC ET. AL	
	CASE NUMBER:
	CASE NUMBER: 1:07-CV-2644
TO: (Name and address of Defendant)	
Michelle Valentine c/o Nancy Flowers	
Flowers and Hayward Publicity and M 4 East 107th Street, Suite 5G New York, NY 10029	vanagement
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required:	to serve on PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY (name and address)
Charles T. Brant 170 Mitchell Street, SW Atlanta, GA 30303	
	you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you at you serve on the parties to this action must be filed with the
JAMESN. HATTEN	0 1 NOV 2867)
CLERK	DATE
(By) DEPUTY CLERK	n tropic stage a gardina (Sangra a com a Sangra a Kanada a com a

AO 440 (Rev. 8/01) Summons in a Civil Action	
R	RETURN OF SERVICE
Service of the Summons and complaint was made by me ⁽¹⁾	DATE
NAME OF SERVER (PRINT)	TITLE
Check one box below to indicate appropriate method	d of service
Served personally upon the defendant. Place	where served:
 Left copies thereof at the defendant's dwelling discretion then residing therein. 	g house or usual place of abode with a person of suitable age and
Name of person with whom the summons and	complaint were left:
☐ Returned unexecuted:	
□ Other (specify):	
	EMENT OF SERVICE FEES
TRAVEL SERVICES	TOTAL \$0.00
DE	CLARATION OF SERVER
Executed on	gnature of Server
Ad	ldress of Server

⁽¹⁾ As to who may serve a summons see Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

		J	JNITE	D STAT	res Di	STRIC	CT C OI	URT			
	N	ORTHERN			District of	·		GE	ORGIA		
		DIANNE MIL	LER								
				•		SU	MMON	S IN A C	CIVIL A	CTIO	ď
HOI	TZBRINC	V. K PUBLISH	ERS, LLC	ET AL							
					CA	SE NUM	(RFR				
			· · · ·		ÇA	.GE 11014	/	. Dr	1-01	1-2	44
							-		v.	-	·
	•		•							•	
•	. •										
	TO:	(Name and addre	ess of Defenda	nt)			•				•
		MacMillan c/o St. Mar Attn: Offic	tin's Press						· · .		
		175 5th Av New York,	enue								
								:	-		
YC	U ARE H	IEREBY SI		D and requ	uired to ser	ve on PL	AINTIFF'S	ATTOR	NEY (neut	e and addres	s)
		Charles T.	ell Street, S	w				:			
1.		Atlanta, G	A 30303			:		· .			• .
		. •	÷	÷							
•											
-			1.5		•	-			-		•
:		•	,			:					•
this sum the reli	mons on y	plaint which ou, exclusive led in the covithin a reas	ve of the da omplaint.	y of servic Any answe	e. If you fa er that you	ail to do s serve on	o, judgme		ult will b		gainst yo
							ē	-	•	. •	
							-	•		42°	is.
	242600				'n †	NOV 2	2007	٠.			
erk	JAMES	N. HAT	ien ———		— <u>~</u>		.00/		_ `		
~~~~					DAT	<u> </u>					
_		= e *									

AO 440 (Rev. 8/01) Summons in a Civil Action	RETURN OF SERVICE	
	DATE	
Service of the Summons and complaint was made b	by me ^(t)	
AME OF SERVER (PRINT)	TITLE	
Check one box below to indicate appropriate	e method of service	
☐ Served personally upon the defendant.	Place where served:	
<ul> <li>Left copies thereof at the defendant's discretion then residing therein.</li> </ul>	dwelling house or usual place of abode with a	person of suitable age and
Name of person with whom the summ	ons and complaint were left:	
	: 10	sg e de la companya
☐ Returned unexecuted:		
Other (specify):		
	STATEMENT OF SERVICE FEES	
RAVEL SER	RVICES	TOTAL \$0.00
		1 .50.1.0.1
I declare under penalty of perju	DECLARATION OF SERVER  ary under the laws of the United States of Ame	
contained in the Return of Service and St		
I declare under penalty of perju contained in the Return of Service and St Executed on	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ry under the laws of the United States of Ame	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.  Signature of Server	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.  Signature of Server	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.  Signature of Server	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.  Signature of Server	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.  Signature of Server	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.  Signature of Server	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.  Signature of Server	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.  Signature of Server	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.  Signature of Server	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.  Signature of Server	
contained in the Return of Service and St	ary under the laws of the United States of Ametatement of Service Fees is true and correct.  Signature of Server	

⁽¹⁾ As to who may serve a summons see Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

SAO 440 (Rev. 8/01) Sumn	nons in a Civil Action	وخدا وخدود	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<del>*************************************</del>	<u></u>	
	UNITED	STATES	Distri	ст Сои	RT	
NI NI	ORTHERN	Distri	ct of		GEORGIA	· .
C	DIANNE MILLER					
			st	JMMONS I	N A CIVIL A	CTION
HOLTZBRING	V. :K PUBLISHERS, LLC E	T. AL				
			CASENIII	en un	•	*
			CASE NUM	ABEK:		
e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e				1.0	n-cv-	-265
						-475
•						
TO:	(Name and address of Defendant)					•
	Holtzbrinck Publishers,	IIC .	6		•	
	c/o Holtzbrinck Publish	ing Holdings LP	ı			
	Attn: Office of General 175 5th Avenue	Counsel				
•	New York, New York 10	0010-7848	0	•	-	
					٠	•
YOU ARE H	IEREBY SUMMONED	and required to	serve on PL	AINTIFF'S A	TTORNEY (name	e and address)
	Charles T. Brant					
•	170 Mitchell Street, SV Atlanta, GA 30303	<b>,</b>		•		•
•	radina, ori occor					
		***	-			
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			•		1	
•		•				
	•		• .			
•		·	•		_	
an answer to the com	plaint which is served o	n you with this	summons, w	vithin	38 <u>20</u>	days after serv
of this summons on y	ou, exclusive of the day	of service. If y	ou fail to do	so, judgment b	y default will be	e taken against
for the relief demand	led in the complaint. A hithin a reasonable perio	ny answer that	you serve or	the parties to	this action mus	st be filed with
CICIK OF THIS COURT W	mini a reasonable pend	id of thine after	service.			
		• .		<u> </u>		
-				·		•
			. •			
James i	W. HATTEN		n 1 NOV	2007		
CLERK //	<u> </u>	<del></del>	DATE			
A -			DATE			
By) DEPUTY CLERK		<del></del>				*
DELOTE CHEKK	MIC Services					

D	
<u>n</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE
Service of the Summons and complaint was made by me ⁽¹⁾	DATE
NAME OF SERVER (PRINT)	THE
Check one box below to indicate appropriate method	d of service
☐ Served personally upon the defendant. Place v	where served:
<ul> <li>Left copies thereof at the defendant's dwelling discretion then residing therein.</li> </ul>	g house or usual place of abode with a person of suitable age and
Name of person with whom the summons and	complaint were left:
☐ Returned unexecuted:	
Other (specify):	
STAT	TEMENT OF SERVICE FEES
TRAVEL SERVICES	TOTAL \$0.00
DE	CLARATION OF SERVER
Executed on	
Date Sig	gnature of Server
Date Sig	gnature of Server
	gnature of Server ddress of Server
Ād	
Ād	
Ād	
Ād	

⁽¹⁾ As to who may serve a summons see Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

<b>№</b> AO 4	40 (Rev. 8/01) Sumn	nons in a Civil Action		×		
		UNITED S	TATES DISTR	ICT COURT	<b>1</b>	
: 	NO.	ORTHERN	District of		GEORGIA	
	Ε	DIANNE MILLER				
	y ·		s	UMMONS IN	A CIVIL ACTION	<b>,</b>
	HOLTZBRINC	V. K PUBLISHERS, LLC ET. A	<b>AL</b> :			:
						. 1
•	-		CASE NU	MBER: /: 0	7-CV-20	n(   1
				•	20	199 ₄
:. :				•		
•	TO:	(Name and address of Defendant)				
		St. Martin's Press	·		* • * · · · · .	
	<b>.</b>	Attn: Office of General Co 175 5th Avenue				
		New York, New York 1001	10-7848			
				· ,	,	
•	YOU ARE H	IEREBY SUMMONED ar Charles T. Brant	id required to serve on P	LAINTIFF'S ATT	ORNEY (name and address	s) ·
	A	170 Mitchell Street, SW Atlanta, GA 30303				
		Adanta, CA 30000				
		•		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		4
						•
	-					
		alaine subiab ia aama dan s			× 2/1	•
of this	s summons on y	plaint which is served on y ou, exclusive of the day of	service. If you fail to do	so, judgment by d	lefault will be taken as	er servic <b>e</b> gainst you
for the	e relief demand of this Court w	ed in the complaint. Any ithin a reasonable period of	answer that you serve of of time after service	on the parties to th	is action must be filed	d with the
	01,11110	·	or this direction bor the			e.
• • •						
	JAMES N	I. HATTEN		. 000m		,
Or T		2	0 1 NO	V 2007		
CLERK	A	• •	DATE			
(By) DE	PUTY CLERK					

AO 440 (Rev. 8/01) Summons in a Civil Action		
R	ETURN OF SERVICE	
Service of the Summons and complaint was made by me ⁽¹⁾	DATE	
NAME OF SERVER <i>(PRINT)</i>	TITLE	
Check one box below to indicate appropriate method	l of service	
☐ Served personally upon the defendant. Place v	vhere served:	
<ul> <li>Left copies thereof at the defendant's dwelling discretion then residing therein.</li> </ul>	house or usual place of abode with a person of	suitable age and
Name of person with whom the summons and	complaint were left:	
☐ Returned unexecuted:		<i>:</i>
• • •	•	
Other (specify):		
STAT	EMENT OF SERVICE FEES	
TRAVEL SERVICES		TOTAL \$0.00
DEC	CLARATION OF SERVER	
contained in the Return of Service and Statement		
Executed on Date Sig	nature of Server	
Add	dress of Server	
	<i>;</i>	:

(1) As to who may serve a summons see Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

	ORTHERN	D		•				
			istrict of			GEORGIA		
•	DIANNE MILLER							
			r	SUMM	ONS IN	A CIVIL	ACTIO	N
HOLTZBRING	V. CK PUBLISHERS, LL	.C ET. AL	. :					. "
•			CASE	NUMBER:				
			CAGE	NOMBER.	:07	-CV-	210	UU
,								77
				•.				•
TO:	(Name and address of Defer	ndant)						
10.	Heather Hunter			· · ·	;	•	٠	
	c/o Dave Copeland 630 9th Avenue New York, New Yo							
	NEW TOIK, NEW TO	FK 10030	,		ř.		•	
YOU ARE I	IEREBY SUMMO	NED and requir	red to serve	on PLAINT	IFF'S AT	TORNEY (n.	ume and addr	ess)
	Charles T. Brant 170 Mitchell Street	t, SW					,	
	Atlanta, GA 30303				•	-		
· - <del>[</del> -]		-			•			
answer to the com	plaint which is serv	ed on you with	this summa	ons, within	•	SQ 20	davs af	ter service
fthis summons on y or the relief demand	ou, exclusive of the led in the complaint within a reasonable p	day of service.  Any answer	. If you fail t that you ser	to do so, jud ve on the p	gment by arties to t	default will his action m	be taken a	against yo ed with th
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			•				-
								•
		: /				,		
JAMES	N. HATTEN		01	NOV 200	7			:
ERK /			DATE			<u> </u>	<del></del>	<u></u>
Man								

SAO 440 (Rev. 8/01) Summons in a Civil Action	
	ETURN OF SERVICE
Service of the Summons and complaint was made by me ⁽¹⁾	DATE
NAME OF SERVER (PRINT)	TITLE
Check one box below to indicate appropriate method	l of service
☐ Served personally upon the defendant. Place	
Served personally upon the detendant. Trace of	vilote served.
	house or usual place of abode with a person of suitable age and
discretion then residing therein.  Name of person with whom the summons and	constant was late
-	complaint were lett.
☐ Returned unexecuted:	
Other (specify):	
All An	THE PROVE OF CURBLE OF PROPE
TRAVEL SERVICES	EMENT OF SERVICE FEES
	CLARATION OF SERVER
Executed on	
Date Sig	mature of Server
Ad	dress of Server

⁽¹⁾ As to who may serve a summons see Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

DIANNE MILLER	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
V.	)	
	)	
HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC,	)	Case No. 1:07-cv-2644-JOF
MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC.,	)	
SAINT MARTIN'S PRESS,	)	
HEATHER HUNTER, and	)	
MICHELLE VALENTINE	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	

## **DEFENDANTS' CONSENT MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Defendants Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC, MacMillan Publishers, Inc., Saint Martin's Press, Heather Hunter, and Michelle Valentine, by and through counsel, respectfully request an extension of time until December 17, 2007 to move, answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint.

The undersigned counsel have recently been engaged by the Defendants in this action. Although several Defendants have been served, Defendant Valentine has not, and counsel has agreed to accept service on her behalf.

In order to permit all Defendants have a single date on which to move, answer and otherwise respond to the Complaint, and to permit counsel adequate time to prepare, Defendants request an extension of time until December 17, 2007.

The extension will extend the response date of the corporate Defendants by less than two weeks (from December 4 to December 17), and the response date of Defendant Hunter by less than a week (from December 11 to December 17).

In a telephone conference, counsel for Plaintiff has consented to such an extension.

Respectfully submitted,

FOR: DOW LOHNES PLLC

Peter C. Canfield Georgia Bar No. 107748 Thomas M. Clyde Georgia Bar No. 170955 Christopher L. Meazell Georgia Bar No. 500497

Six Concourse Parkway Atlanta, Georgia 30328-6117 (770) 901-8800

**Attorneys for Defendants** 

### Case 1:08-cv-03508-HB

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Defendants' Consent Motion for Extension of Time was served this 28th day of November, 2007, via electronic mail, on the following individual:

Charles Tyrone Brant
Colom and Brant
170 Mitchell Street
Atlanta, GA 30303
cbrant@colomandbrantlaw.com

Thomas M. Clyde

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

DIANNE MILLER	)
Plaintiff,	)
v. HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC, MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC., SAINT MARTIN'S PRESS, HEATHER HUNTER, and MICHELLE VALENTINE	) ) ) Case No. 1:07-cv-2644-JOF ) ) ) )
Defendant.	)
<u>ORD</u>	<u>ER</u>
Upon consideration of Defendant	es' Consent Motion for Extension of
Time, it is hereby GRANTED. Defend	ants answer, motion or other
response to the Complaint shall be due	on December 17, 2007.
SO ORDERED this day or	f, 2007
J	. OWEN FORRESTER udge, United States District Court, Vorthern District of Georgia

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

DIANNE MILLER,	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
v.	)	
HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC, MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC.,	)	CIVIL ACTION
ST. MARTIN'S PRESS,	)	File No.: 1:07cv2644-JOF
HEATHER HUNTER, and MICHELLE VALENTINE,	)	
Defendants.	)	

## MOTION TO DISMISS FOR IMPROPER VENUE

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(3), Defendants move to dismiss this action based upon improper venue.

In accordance with LR 7.1 N.D.Ga., Defendants' motion is supported by the attached memorandum of law.

This 17th day of December, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

FOR: DOW, LOHNES, PLLC

/s/ Thomas M. Clyde
Peter C. Canfield
Georgia State Bar No. 107748
Thomas M. Clyde
Georgia State Bar No. 170955
Christopher L. Meazell
Georgia State Bar No. 500497

Six Concourse Parkway Suite 1800 Atlanta, Georgia 30328 (770) 901-8800

Attorneys for Defendants

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

DIANNE MILLER,	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
v.	)	
HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC,	)	CIVIL ACTION
MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC.,	)	
ST. MARTIN'S PRESS,	)	File No.: 1:07-cv-2644-JOF
HEATHER HUNTER, and	)	
MICHELLE VALENTINE,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

## MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS FOR IMPROPER VENUE

In accordance with LR 7.1 N.D.Ga., Defendants submit this memorandum of law in support of their motion to dismiss for improper venue.

## INTRODUCTION AND FACTUAL BACKGROUND

As is evident from the content of Plaintiff's Complaint, venue for this diversity action does not lie in the Northern District of Georgia. In short, this controversy arises out of the alleged, tortious pre-publication conduct of various Defendants in connection with a 2007 book entitled *Insatiable: The Rise of a Porn Star* (the "Book"). Not a single party to the case is a resident of Georgia, much less this District. See Compl. ¶¶ 2 - 7 (averring Washington, D.C. residency for

Plaintiff and New York residency for each Defendant "at all times relevant hereto"). And the allegedly tortious activities about which Plaintiff complains revolve around the authorship of a book written in New York by residents of New York, and published by companies based in New York. See Declaration of Heather Hunter ¶¶ 2-5, attached hereto as Exhibit 1. Indeed, all of the allegations, evidence and witnesses relevant to this case (with the exception of Plaintiff's attorney) have no connection whatsoever to the State of Georgia. See Exh. 1 ¶¶ 4-7. Nevertheless, Plaintiff filed suit in this Court and blandly asserts in Paragraph 9 of her Complaint that venue is proper here. It is not.

As a straightforward reading of 28 U.S.C. § 1391 and the claims contained in Plaintiff's Complaint demonstrate, venue in this diversity action is not proper in this Court or in any other district in this State. Defendants accordingly request that this Court dismiss this action for failure to comport with the requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a).

## **ARGUMENT**

## I. <u>Under the Plain Terms of 28 U.S.C. § 1391, Venue of This Case is Not Proper in This Court</u>

Where federal jurisdiction is founded on diversity, the question of venue is governed by 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a). <u>Home Ins. Co. v. Thomas Indus., Inc.</u>, 896 F.2d 1352, 1355 (11th Cir. 1990). A review of the plain language of the statute demonstrates that venue is not proper in this Court.

Section 1391(a) states:

A civil action wherein jurisdiction is founded only on diversity of citizenship may, except as otherwise provided by law, be brought only in (1) a judicial district where any defendant resides, if all defendants reside in the same State, (2) a judicial district in which a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred, or a substantial part of property that is the subject of the action is situated, or (3) a judicial district in which any defendant is subject to personal jurisdiction at the time the action is commenced, if there is no district in which the action may otherwise be brought.

## A. <u>Subsections (a)(1) and (a)(3) Do Not Support Venue In This</u> District

As the averments of Plaintiff's own Complaint demonstrate, the first and third bases for establishing venue under Section 1391(a) do not support venue in this district.

Subsection (a)(1) permits a suit to be brought in "a judicial district where any defendant resides, if all defendants reside in the same State." For purposes of venue, all the defendants in this case do reside in the same State – New York – but

Plaintiff failed to file her lawsuit in a judicial district in that State. Defendants Hunter and Valentine are longtime residents of New York (See Compl. ¶ 6, 7; Exh. 1 ¶ 2, 5), and Defendants Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC, Macmillan Publishers, Inc. and St. Martin's Press are, by operation of law, considered residents there for purposes of venue. See Compl. ¶ 3 - 5; 28 U.S.C. § 1391(c) ("For purposes of venue under this chapter, a defendant that is a corporation shall be deemed to reside in any judicial district in which it is subject to personal jurisdiction at the time the action is commenced."). Accordingly, subsection (a)(1) affords venue of this case in either the Southern or Eastern Districts of New York, but it does not provide any basis for venue in Georgia.

Similarly unhelpful to Plaintiff is Subsection (a)(3), which permits venue in "a judicial district in which any defendant is subject to personal jurisdiction at the time the action is commenced, if there is no district in which the action may otherwise be brought." Obviously, for (a)(3) to apply, there must first be a finding that there is "no district in which the action may otherwise be brought." As

_

St. Martin's Press and Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC are limited liability companies, which are afforded the same treatment for venue purposes as a corporation such as Macmillan Publishers, Inc. See generally Moore's Federal Practice, § 110.03[5] (3d ed. 1997).

Four of five Defendants reside within the Southern District of New York (Manhattan and Bronx), with Ms. Hunter residing in the Eastern District of New York (Brooklyn). Defendants collectively suggest that the Southern District would be the more proper Subsection (a)(1) venue for purposes of convenience.

discussed above, in this case, there are at least two districts in which this action may otherwise be brought: the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

#### Subsection (a)(2) Does Not Support Venue Here В.

Equally unavailing is Subsection (a)(2), which authorizes venue in "a judicial district in which a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred, or a substantial part of property that is the subject of the action is situated." Because this is not an in rem action, venue is only appropriate in Georgia if Plaintiff can show a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to her claims occurred here. This is a standard which Plaintiff cannot meet.³

Under Subsection (a) 2: "[s]ubstantiality is intended to preserve the element of fairness so that a defendant is not haled into a remote district having no real relationship to the dispute." Cottman Transmission Sys., Inc., v. Martino, 36 F.3d 291, 294 (3rd Cir. 1994) (reversing trial court's finding of proper venue). See also Cameron v. Thornburgh, 983 F.2d 253 (D.C. Cir. 1993) (reversing trial court and

The burden of establishing proper venue is on Plaintiff Miller. See Delta Air Lines, Inc. v. W. Conf. of Teamsters Pens. Trust Fund, 722 F. Supp. 725, 727 (N.D. Ga. 1989) (holding "burden of establishing proper venue is on plaintiffs"); 14D Charles Alan Wright, Arthur R. Miller & Edward H. Cooper, Federal Practice and Procedure § 3826 (2007) ("[W]hen an objection has been raised, the burden is on the plaintiff to establish that the district he or she has chosen is a proper venue.... This approach is consistent with the plaintiff's threshold obligation to show that the case belongs in the particular district court in which suit has been instituted.").

finding venue improper because all actions allegedly taken by defendant relating to complained-of tort occurred in other jurisdiction); Miller v. Meadowlands Car Imports, Inc., 822 F. Supp. 61, 64 (E.D. Conn. 1993) (venue improper because "a substantial part of the activities did not take place" in the forum).

Courts have articulated the "substantial part of the events" standard of Section 1391(a)(2) as requiring a "substantial nexus" between the forum in which the suit was filed and the allegedly tortious activity of the defendants. For example, in PI, Inc. v. Quality Products, Inc., 907 F.Supp. 752, 757-758 (S.D.N.Y. 1995), the court found venue to be improper because plaintiff, in a breach of contract suit, could not show a substantial nexus between the preparation of the contract, which occurred in Arkansas and Florida, and the forum, New York. See also Emjayco v. Morgan Stanley & Co., Inc., 901 F.Supp. 1397 (C.D. Ill. 1995) (venue improper; court unwilling to impute other defendants' conduct within Illinois to this defendant, whose only substantial acts occurred in New York).

Plaintiff pays only lip service to this substantiality requirement in Paragraph 9 of her Complaint, stating:

Venue is proper in this Court because the acts delineated below all occurred either partially or in totality in Atlanta, GA. Furthermore the book, subject matter of this litigation, sold by the defendant is distributed on a national level and is sold and circulated in Atlanta, Georgia. Not only is this naked allegation in the midst of a bare-bones Complaint itself legally insufficient to carry venue, but the entirety of this assertion is belied by the remainder of the Complaint.

First, Plaintiff's assertion that "the acts delineated below all occurred either partially or in totality in Atlanta" is simply false. This is evident from a review of the Complaint as a whole. All of the allegedly tortious activities were purportedly done by New Yorkers in New York. See, e.g., Compl., ¶¶ 10-16 (setting forth purported "facts" all of which involve a manuscript delivered to New York and actions taken in New York); Count I, ¶¶ 17-21 (alleging tortious interference stemming from New York Defendants' actions); Count II, ¶¶ 22-24 (alleging conversion of unpublished material by New York Defendants); Count III, ¶¶ 25-27 (alleging fraud stemming from New York Defendants' actions).

At its core, the wrongdoing alleged in the complaint is a purported conspiracy developed by New Yorkers in New York to "convert" a manuscript located in New York. Simply put, none of the alleged events giving rise to Plaintiff's tort claims occurred here in Georgia. The New York-centricity of this case is further confirmed by co-author Hunter (Exh. 1 ¶¶ 2-8).

While Plaintiff Miller may claim to have acted from Atlanta (or any other locale for that matter), her actions do not form the basis of the allegedly tortious conduct alleged in the Complaint. The very language of Section 1391(a)(2) –

"events or omissions giving rise to the claim" – suggests "a focus on the actions of the defendant, not on those of the plaintiff." Gaines, Emhof, Metzler & Kriner v. Nisberg, 843 F.Supp. 851, 854 (W.D.N.Y. 1994). In tort cases such as this, "the factors that courts focus on include the place where the allegedly tortious actions occurred and the place where the harms were felt." 14D Charles Alan Wright, Arthur R. Miller & Edward H. Cooper, Federal Practice and Procedure § 3806.1 at 214-15 (2007). Moreover, the proper emphasis is on the location of the conduct at issue. See Id. at 215-16 ("[m]ost courts have found that the suffering of economic harm within a district is not sufficient without more to warrant transactional venue in that district...because otherwise venue would almost always be proper at the place of plaintiff's residence, an option Congress explicitly removed with the 1990 amendments to the diversity portion of the statute"). Not surprisingly then, courts have repeatedly rejected efforts to establish venue based on Plaintiffs' actions or injuries, as opposed to the events giving rise to the claim. See generally Id. at n.17 (collecting cases).

In this case Ms. Hunter had no interaction with Ms. Miller related to the Book in Georgia (Exh. 1 ¶¶ 6-8), and all of the allegedly tortious conduct occurred in New York, thus rendering Georgia an inappropriate venue for this tort action.

See, e.g., I.M.D. USA, Inc. v. Shalit, 92 F. Supp. 2d 315 (E.D.N.Y. 2000) (Suit alleging breach of contract to sell diamonds on consignment, and conversion, was

properly venued in South Carolina, where defendant lived and diamonds were allegedly converted, rather than Eastern District of New York, where parties happened to meet socially prior to entering into agreement); Jones v. Trump, 919 F. Supp. 583, 587-89 (D. Conn. 1996) (Federal district court in Connecticut was improper venue for claims alleging trespass, destruction of private property, theft, violation of privacy, and conversion arising out of actions taken by defendants at Connecticut plaintiff's New York office; actions did not substantially arise from events or omissions occurring in State of Connecticut).

Apparently recognizing the deficiency of her general venue pleading, Plaintiff tries to bolster her case by citing the sale and distribution of the Book nationwide and within Atlanta. The acts claimed in Plaintiff's Complaint, however, have nothing whatsoever to do with the sale and publication of the Book. Rather, they plainly surround the alleged pre-publication conduct of Defendants in connection with a purported manuscript that pre-existed the work as eventually published. See, e.g., Compl., ¶¶ 10-16 ("facts" occurring prior to the actual publication of the Book); Count I, ¶¶ 17-21 (alleging tortious interference stemming from pre-publication actions); Count II, ¶¶ 22-24 (alleging conversion of unpublished material); Count III, ¶¶ 25-27 (alleging fraud stemming from prepublication actions). The actual publication of the book itself forms no part of Plaintiff's allegations. As such, its availability or sale *vel non* in the State of

Georgia is irrelevant for purposes of venue – undercutting Plaintiff's secondary assertion for an adequate venue foundation.

This leaves the question of why Plaintiff chose to file this case in Atlanta - an obviously improper venue with no connection to either the parties or events at issue? The answer to this is simple: the case was apparently brought here for the convenience of Plaintiff's Atlanta-based counsel – an inappropriate basis for venue. See Ramsey v. Fox News Network, 323 F. Supp. 2d 1352, 1356 (N.D. Ga. 2004) (convenience of counsel irrelevant to issue of determining venue (citing Prather v. Raymond Constr. Co., 570 F. Supp. 278, 284 (N.D. Ga.1983))).

Obviously, the location of the alleged "events or omissions giving rise to the claim" is not in Georgia. The language of Section 1391(a)(2) and the case law interpreting it compel a conclusion that venue is not proper in this Court.

### II. <u>Under 28 U.S.C. § 1406(a)</u>, <u>Plaintiffs' Complaint Should Be Dismissed</u> <u>for Improper Venue</u>

Because venue has been laid in the wrong district, the case should be dismissed. Under 28 U.S.C. § 1406(a), "the district court of a district in which is filed a case laying venue in the wrong division or district shall dismiss, or if it be in the interest of justice, transfer such case to any district or division in which it could have been brought."

Plaintiff has not and cannot show that the interests of justice are served by transfer in lieu of dismissal. Plaintiff brought this case in a forum in which venue

Case 1:08-cv-03508-HB

is improper as to all defendants, albeit convenient for Plaintiff's counsel. Counsel for Defendants informed Plaintiff's counsel⁴ of this deficiency, and asked that the Complaint be withdrawn prior to the expenditure of time and resources on this Motion. Plaintiff's counsel refused, maintaining Plaintiff's effort to force the litigation to occur in this distant and inconvenient forum. Plaintiffs' decision to file in a district where Plaintiff had to know venue was improper should not be rewarded by a transfer that simply encourages this and other Plaintiffs to disregard the basic statutes dictating where suits can properly be brought and encourages the filing of unnecessary pleadings that increase the time and expense of the case to defendants and the Court. See, e.g., Hapaniewski v. City of Chicago Heights, 883 F.2d 576, 579 (7th Cir. 1989).⁵

Moreover, even if the Court were to find that venue may be proper here, Defendants submit that the Court should exercise its discretion pursuant to Section 1404(a) and, in the interests of justice, transfer the case to the Southern District of

When Defendants' counsel attempted to speak to counsel of record for Plaintiff, Defendants' counsel was referred instead to two attorneys at the same firm located in Columbus, Mississippi. The Columbus counsel -- Wilbur Colom and Edtrik Baker -- have indicated they will be primarily handling the case and refused to withdraw the action.

Earlier this year, Plaintiff's counsel of record similarly filed a complaint in this district without a proper basis to establish jurisdiction and venue. See Genesis Press, Inc. v. Parker Publishing, Case No. 06-cv-2350-ODE (July 5, 2007 Order granting Rule 12(b) motion [Doc. No. 30]).

New York for the convenience of the parties and witnesses – all of whom, but for the Washington, D.C.- based Plaintiff, are located in New York.

#### **CONCLUSION**

For all of these reasons, the Court should dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for improper venue.

This 17th day of December, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

FOR: DOW, LOHNES, PLLC

/s/ Thomas M. Clyde
Peter C. Canfield
Georgia State Bar No. 107748
Thomas M. Clyde
Georgia State Bar No. 170955
Christopher L. Meazell
Georgia State Bar No. 500497

Six Concourse Parkway Suite 1800 Atlanta, Georgia 30328 (770) 901-8800

Attorneys for Defendants

#### **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH TYPE REQUIREMENTS**

I hereby certify that the foregoing MOTION TO DISMISS OF

DEFENDANTS FOR IMPROPER VENUE, and MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN

SUPPORT have been prepared in a font and point selection approved by the Court in Local Rule 5.1B.

DATED this 17th day of December, 2007.

/s/ Christopher L. Meazell Christopher L. Meazell Ga. Bar No. 500497

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that I have this day filed the foregoing MOTION TO

DISMISS FOR IMPROPER VENUE with the Court using the CM/ECF system,
which will send electronic notice of same to the below-listed counsel of record:

#### **Charles Tyrone Brant**

Office of Charles T. Brant 170 Mitchell Street Atlanta, GA 30303 404-522-5900

Email: <a href="mailto:cbrant@colomandbrantlaw.com">cbrant@colomandbrantlaw.com</a>

DATED this the 17th day of December, 2007.

/s/ Christopher L. Meazell Christopher L. Meazell Ga. Bar No. 500497

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

DIANNE MILLER,	)
Plaintiff,	
<b>v.</b>	)
HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC,	) CIVIL ACTION
MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC., ST. MARTIN'S PRESS,	) File No.: 1:07-cv-2644-JOF
HEATHER HUNTER, and MICHELLE VALENTINE,	)
Defendants.	
	<u>_</u>

#### **DECLARATION OF HEATHER HUNTER**

### STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF KINGS

- 1. I am named as a defendant in the above action and make this declaration in support of the Defendants' motion to dismiss for improper venue. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein.
- 2. I am a resident of Brooklyn, New York, and have lived here since late-2002.
- 3. I am the co-author of the novel, "Insatiable: The Rise of a Porn Star." It is the novel referenced in the Complaint.

- 4. All of the writing that I did in connection with preparing the novel was done from my home office in New York.
- 5. In addition, my discussions with my co-author Michelle Valentine, who is located in the Bronx, occurred in New York. My discussions with my agent, who is located in Manhattan, took place in New York. My discussions with my publisher St. Martin's Press were with employees located in New York City. To the best of my knowledge, all of my communications with any other people relating to the novel occurred while I was located in New York.
- 6. My communications with Diane Miller related to an early version of the novel, and all occurred via telephone or e-mail while I was located in New York.
- 7. On one occasion in early 2006, as part of a promotional tour for my music CD "Double H: The Unexpected," I briefly met Dianne Miller in person during a general meet-and-greet session at an Atlanta night club. Ms. Miller was one of a number of well-wishers and the meeting was only social.
- 8. I never visited Georgia in connection with writing the novel.
- 9. I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this __ day of December, 2007 at Brooklyn, New York.

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

DIANNE MILLER,	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
v.	)	
HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC,	)	CIVIL ACTION
MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC., ST. MARTIN'S PRESS,	)	File No.: 1:07cv2644-JOF
HEATHER HUNTER, and MICHELLE VALENTINE,	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

#### **NOTICE OF APPEARANCE**

Notice is hereby given that Christopher L. Meazell of the law firm of Dow Lohnes PPLC hereby enters an appearance on behalf of Defendants.

This 19th day of December, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christopher L. Meazell Christopher L. Meazell Georgia State Bar No. 500497

DOW LOHNES PLLC Six Concourse Parkway Suite 1800 Atlanta, Georgia 30328 (770) 901-8800

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that I have this day filed the foregoing NOTICE OF APPEARANCE with the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send electronic notice of same to the below-listed counsel of record:

#### **Charles Tyrone Brant**

Office of Charles T. Brant 170 Mitchell Street Atlanta, GA 30303 404-522-5900

Email: cbrant@colomandbrantlaw.com

DATED this the 19th day of December, 2007.

/s/ Christopher L. Meazell Christopher L. Meazell Ga. Bar No. 500497

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

DIANNE MILLER	· )
Plaintiff,	
<b>V.</b>	
HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC, MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC., SAINT MARTIN'S PRESS,	) Case No. 1:07-cv-2644-JOF
HEATHER HUNTER, and MICHELLE VALENTINE	) ) )
Defendant.	

### PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Plaintiff Dianne Miller, by and through counsel, respectfully request an extension of time until January 22, 2008 to answer or otherwise respond to the Motion to Dismiss for Improper Venue.

The undersigned counsel has contacted counsel for the Defendants in an effort to resolve the pending motion. Defense counsel has stated that he will contact his clients in order to ascertain whether an agreement can be made. He informed Plaintiff's counsel that a response to such request would be made during the week of January 7 through January 11, 2008.

In order to permit Defense counsel ample opportunity to communicate with his clients and to allow Plaintiff's attorney enough time to draft a proper response, the Plaintiff request an extension of time until January 22, 2008.

This 4th day of January, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Charles T. Brant
Charles T. Brant, Esq.
Attorney for Plaintiff

GA Bar #078070 170 Mitchell St. S.W. Atlanta, GA 30303

Telephone: 404-522-5900 Facsimile: 404-526-8855

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

DIANNE MILLER	
Plaintiff,	) )
V.	) ) )
HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC, MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC., SAINT MARTIN'S PRESS, HEATHER HUNTER, and MICHELLE VALENTINE	) Case No. 1:07-cv-2644-JOF ) ) )
Defendant.	) ) 
<u>ORI</u>	DER
Upon consideration of Plaintiff's M	Totion for Extension of Time, it is hereby
GRANTED. Plaintiff's response motion	or other response to the Motion to
Dismiss for Improper Venue is due on Jar	mary 22, 2008.
SO ORDERED this day of _	, 2008
J. C	OWEN FORRESTER
Jud	ge, United States District Court,
Noi	thern District of Georgia

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the within and foregoing MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME upon the following counsel for the parties by e-filing and U.S. first class mail to:

> Thomas M. Clyde, Esq. DOW, LOHNES, PLLC Six Concourse Parkway Suite 1800 Atlanta, Georgia 30328

> Peter C. Canfield, Esq. DOW, LOHNES, PLLC Six Concourse Parkway Suite 1800 Atlanta, Georgia 30328

Christopher L. Meazell, Esq. DOW, LOHNES, PLLC Six Concourse Parkway **Suite 1800** Atlanta, Georgia 30328

This 4th day of January, 2008.

**COLOM AND BRANT** 

/s/ Charles T. Brant Charles T. Brant Georgia Bar No. 078070 Attorney for Defendant

170 Mitchell Street Atlanta, GA 30303 (404) 522-5900 (404) 526-8855 (facsimile)

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

DIANNE MILLER	
Plaintiff,	) )
$\hat{\mathbf{V}}_{m{x}}$	
HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC, MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC., SAINT MARTIN'S PRESS, HEATHER HUNTER, and MICHELLE VALENTINE	) Case No. 1:07-cv-2644-JOF ) ) )
Defendant.	) ) 
ORI	<u>DER</u>
Upon consideration of Plaintiff's M	lotion for Extension of Time, it is hereby
GRANTED. Plaintiff's response motion	or other response to the Motion to
Dismiss for Improper Venue is due on Jar	nuary 22, 2008.
SO ORDERED this day of _	, 2008
Jud	OWEN FORRESTER  Ige, United States District Court,  rthern District of Georgia

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

Plaintiff,  v.  HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC,  Case No. 1:07-cv-2644-JOF	
HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC, ) Case No. 1:07-cv-2644-JOF	
MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC., ) SAINT MARTIN'S PRESS, ) HEATHER HUNTER, and ) MICHELLE VALENTINE )	
Defendant. )	
ORDER	
Upon consideration of Plaintiff's Motion for Extension of Time, it is her	eby
GRANTED. Plaintiff's response motion or other response to the Motion to	
Dismiss for Improper Venue is due on January 22, 2008.	
SO ORDERED this day of, 2008	
J. OWEN FORRESTER Judge, United States District Court, Northern District of Georgia	

#### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

DIANNE MILLER,	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
v.	)	
HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS, LLC,	)	CIVIL ACTION
MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS, INC., ST. MARTIN'S PRESS,	)	File No.: 1:07-cv-2644-JOF
HEATHER HUNTER, and MICHELLE VALENTINE,	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

## RESPONSE IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Defendants respectfully submit this Response to Plaintiff's Motion for Extension of Time to Respond [Doc. 7], filed January 5, 2008. Defendants do not oppose Plaintiff's request for an extension through January 22, 2008 to respond to Defendants' Motion to Dismiss for Improper Venue [Doc. 4] and consent to the entry of Plaintiff's Proposed Order.

This 8th day of January, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

FOR: DOW, LOHNES, PLLC

/s/ Christopher L. Meazell
Peter C. Canfield
Georgia State Bar No. 107748
Thomas M. Clyde
Georgia State Bar No. 170955
Christopher L. Meazell
Georgia State Bar No. 500497

Six Concourse Parkway Suite 1800 Atlanta, Georgia 30328 (770) 901-8800

Attorneys for Defendants

### **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH TYPE REQUIREMENTS**

I hereby certify that the foregoing RESPONSE IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME has been prepared in a font and point selection approved by the Court in Local Rule 5.1B.

DATED this 8th day of January, 2008.

/s/ Christopher L. Meazell Christopher L. Meazell Ga. Bar No. 500497

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that I have this day filed the foregoing RESPONSE IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME with the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send electronic notice of same to the below-listed counsel of record:

**Charles Tyrone Brant** 

Office of Charles T. Brant 170 Mitchell Street Atlanta, GA 30303 404-522-5900

Email: cbrant@colomandbrantlaw.com

DATED this the 8th day of January, 2008.

/s/ Christopher L. Meazell Christopher L. Meazell Ga. Bar No. 500497

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

DIANNE MILLER, Plaintiff,	)
V.	) ) CIVIL ACTION ) File No.:1:07cv2644-JOF
HOLTZBRINK PUBLISHERS, LLC, MACMILLAN PUBLISHER, INC., ST. MARTIN'S PRESS HEATHER HUNTER, and MICHELLE VALENTINE Respondent,	
	)

#### ORDER GRANTING TRANSFER OF VENUE

THIS MATTER having come before this court, and upon consent of Dianne Miller, Plaintiff and Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC, MacMillan Publishers, Inc., St. Martin's Press, Heather Hunter, and Michelle Valentine, Defendants, the court finds that based upon the acknowledged consent the parties that Civil Action File no. 1:07 cv 2644-JOF shall be transferred to the Southern District of New York.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the individual claims of Dianne Miller asserted in the United State

District Court for the Northern District of Georgia Atlanta Division, Civil Action No. 1:07cv2644-JOF be transferred to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. It is further ordered that the clerk of this court duplicate the entire original file on this matter and deliver it to the Circuit Clerk of United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. It also is ordered that any additional costs or fees required for filing this action be paid by Plaintiff herein.

Defendants' answer or other response to the Complaint shall be due 30 days after this action is docketed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

**SO ORDERED**, this the day of January 2008.

J. OWEN FORRESTER Judge, United States District Court, Northern District of Georgia

### Prepared by:

Charles T. Brant, Esq. 170 Mitchell Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (404) 522-5900 (404) 526-8855 facsimile

#### **Attorney for Plaintiff:**

COLOM & BRANT Attorneys at Law

/s/ Charles T. Brant Charles T. Brant Georgia Bar No. 078070

170 Mitchell Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303 Phone: (404) 522-5900 Fax: (404) 526-8855

#### **Attorney for Defendants**

/s/ Thomas M. Clyde
Thomas M. Clyde
GA State Bar No. 170955

Dow, Lohnes, PLLC Six Concourse Parkway Suite 1800 Atlanta, Georgia 30328 (770) 901-8800

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the within and foregoing **ORDER GRANTING TRANSFER OF VENUE** upon the following counsel for the parties by e-filing and U.S. first class mail to:

Thomas M. Clyde, Esq. DOW, LOHNES, PLLC Six Concourse Parkway Suite 1800
Atlanta, Georgia 30328

This 22ND day of January, 2008.

/s/ Charles T. Brant Charles T. Brant GA Bar No.: 078070

170 Mitchell Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (404) 522-5900 (404) 526-8855 (facsimile)

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

DIANNE MILLER,	)			
Plaintiff,	.)			
	)			
v	)	CIVIL AC	ΓΙΟΝ	
	)	File No.:1:0	07cv2644-	JOF
HOLTZBRINK PUBLISHERS, LLC,	)			
MACMILLAN PUBLISHER, INC.,	)			
ST. MARTIN'S PRESS	)			
HEATHER HUNTER, and	)			
MICHELLE VALENTINE	)			
Respondent,	)			
	)			

#### ORDER GRANTING TRANSFER OF VENUE

THIS MATTER having come before this court, and upon consent of Dianne Miller, Plaintiff and Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC, MacMillan Publishers, Inc., St. Martin's Press, Heather Hunter, and Michelle Valentine, Defendants, the court finds that based upon the acknowledged consent the parties that Civil Action File no. 1:07 cv 2644-JOF shall be transferred to the Southern District of New York.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the individual claims of Dianne Miller asserted in the United State

District Court for the Northern District of Georgia Atlanta Division, Civil Action No. 1:07cv2644-JOF be transferred to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. It is further ordered that the clerk of this court duplicate the entire original file on this matter and deliver it to the Circuit Clerk of United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. It also is ordered that any additional costs or fees required for filing this action be paid by Plaintiff herein.

Defendants' answer or other response to the Complaint shall be due 30 days after this action is docketed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

SO ORDERED, this the 3rd day of January 2008.

J. OWEN FORRESTER Judge, United States District Court, Northern District of Georgia

### Prepared by:

Charles T. Brant, Esq. 170 Mitchell Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (404) 522-5900 (404) 526-8855 facsimile

#### **Attorney for Plaintiff:**

COLOM & BRANT Attorneys at Law

/s/ Charles T. Brant Charles T. Brant Georgia Bar No. 078070

170 Mitchell Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303 Phone: (404) 522-5900 Fax: (404) 526-8855

#### **Attorney for Defendants**

/s/ Thomas M. Clyde
Thomas M. Clyde
GA State Bar No. 170955

Dow, Lohnes, PLLC Six Concourse Parkway Suite 1800 Atlanta, Georgia 30328 (770) 901-8800

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the within and foregoing **ORDER GRANTING TRANSFER OF VENUE** upon the following counsel for the parties by e-filing and U.S. first class mail to:

Thomas M. Clyde, Esq. DOW, LOHNES, PLLC Six Concourse Parkway Suite 1800
Atlanta, Georgia 30328

This 22ND day of January, 2008.

/s/ Charles T. Brant Charles T. Brant GA Bar No.: 078070

170 Mitchell Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (404) 522-5900 (404) 526-8855 (facsimile) Case 1:08-cv-03508-HB Document 1-15 Filed 04/10/2008 Page 1 of 1

### **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

#### NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

2211 United States Courthouse 75 Spring Street, SW Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3361

JAMES N. HATTEN
CLERK OF COURT

CIVIL SECTION 404-215-1655

March 3, 2008

Office of the Clerk USDC Southern District of New York 120 Daniel Patrick Moynihan, 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007-1312

Re: Dianne Miller v. Holtzbrink Publishers, LLS, et al, Civil Action File No. 1:07-cv-2644-JOF

Dear Clerk:

Pursuant to an order of the Court dated March 3, 2008, we are transferring the above entitled case to your district.

Enclosed you will find the entire original file, a certified copy of both the order transferring the case and a copy of our docket sheet.

Please acknowledge receipt of this file upon the copy of this letter.

Sincerely,

James N. Hatten Clerk of Court

By: s/ Harry F. Martin Deputy Clerk

Enclosures

cc: Counsel of Record

Case 1:08-cv-03508-HB Document 1-16 Filed 04/10/2008 Page 1 of 1

### **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

#### NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

2211 United States Courthouse 75 Spring Street, SW Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3361

JAMES N. HATTEN
CLERK OF COURT

CIVIL SECTION 404-215-1655

April 8, 2008

Office of the Clerk USDC Southern District of New York 120 Daniel Patrick Moynihan, 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007-1312

Re: Dianne Miller v. Holtzbrink Publishers, LLC, et al, Civil Action File No. 1:07-cv-2644-JOF

Dear Clerk:

Pursuant to an order of the Court dated March 3, 2008, we are transferring the above entitled case to your district.

Enclosed you will find the entire original file, a certified copy of both the order transferring the case and a copy of our docket sheet.

Please acknowledge receipt of this file upon the copy of this letter.

Sincerely,

James N. Hatten Clerk of Court

By: s/ Harry F. Martin Deputy Clerk

Enclosures

cc: Counsel of Record